

Call for Applications: Phoenix Postdoctoral Researcher NEXT at Hiroshima University (Advanced Program)

1. Purpose

The Phoenix Postdoctoral Researcher NEXT (Advanced Program) aims to recruit outstanding researchers from Japan and abroad, providing opportunities for collaborative research, discussions, and exchange of ideas with distinguished researchers at Hiroshima University. Through this initiative, the program seeks to promote creative collaborative research, strengthen the university's research capacity, invigorate international networks, and contribute to the future development of international joint research.

This call is implemented as part of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology's "Program for Forming Japan's Peak Research Universities (J-PEAKS)," which was awarded to our university in FY2023. We are now seeking to recruit new researchers to be employed from FY2026.

2. Candidate Requirements

Candidates must meet all of the following three requirements:

- (1) Hold a doctoral degree or expect to obtain one by March 31, 2026. (Note 1)
- (2) Not hold a full-time position at the time of appointment under this program. (Note 2)
- (3) Not have been selected for other programs similar to this program (JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan, etc.). (Note 3)

(Note 1) If a successful candidate no longer expects to obtain a doctoral degree by March 31, 2026, the appointment will be revoked.

(Note 2) "Full-time position" includes fixed-term faculty/researcher positions.

(Note 3) Candidates may apply concurrently to this program and other similar programs (e.g., JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan); however, concurrent receipt of both is not permitted.

3. Number to Be Accepted

Approximately four (4) positions.

4. Employment Period

Successful candidates will be employed as full-time contract employees belonging to their respective host units.

The employment period will be from the earliest possible date on or after April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027.

(This includes a six-month probationary period. The employment period may be renewed every fiscal year depending on performance on duty and budgetary conditions. The maximum employment period is until March 31, 2029)

- ✧ For candidates with a history of being employed by Hiroshima University on or after April 1, 2013, the employment period under this program will be determined in consideration of the employment period of prior employment.
- ✧ For researchers under this program who are subject to the provisions of Article 15-2 of the Act on Activation of the Creation of Science and Technology Innovation, the total contract term required for the accruing of a right to apply for conversion to a labor contract without a fixed term (Article 18, paragraph 1 of the Labor Contracts Act) will be ten years.

5. Duties and Responsibilities

Appointees will perform the following duties:

- (1) Conduct research activities (e.g., experiments and analyses, surveys/fieldwork, theoretical studies) in accordance with the collaborative research plan determined through consultation with the host faculty member (host researcher).
- (2) Promote collaborative research with the host faculty member and other related researchers, and engage in discussion and exchange of ideas through research meetings, seminars, and other academic forums.
- (3) Compile research outcomes and disseminate results through academic publications (writing and submission of journal papers), conference presentations, and other scholarly channels.
- (4) Promote collaboration with researchers both within and outside the University (including international collaboration), and undertake activities that contribute to revitalizing international research networks and fostering the future development of international joint research.

(Scope of change) In principle, none; however, the University may order changes to duties within a range that does not involve reassignment (i.e., changes to the work location/area or affiliation).

Note: This position is a contract-based research appointment. The appointee will not be involved in faculty/departmental administration (e.g., committee work, managerial/administrative duties, entrance examination-related duties, public relations, etc.).

6. Work Location

Host unit (Graduate School/Department).

(Scope of change) The work area to which the host department/faculty belongs (and/or other workplaces designated by the University).

7. Salary, etc.

(1) Salary

Regular salary: JPY 6,060,000 per year.

(as provided for in Article 145-2, paragraph 3 of the Hiroshima University Regulations for Appointment, Removal, Salaries, Working Hours, Time-off and Leave of Contracted Teaching and Research-Related Employees)

- Mutual aid association insurance, employment insurance, and workers' accident compensation insurance will be applicable.

- For mid-fiscal year hires, salaries will be adjusted based on the hire date.

(2) Working hours, etc.

As provided for in the Hiroshima University Regulations for Appointment, Removal, Salaries, Working Hours, Time-off and Leave of Contracted Teaching and Research-Related Employees. As full-time employees, researchers under this program will not be allowed to concurrently hold other positions at the University.

(3) Service duties

As provided for in the Hiroshima University Work Regulations for Contract Employees and the relevant regulations for contracted teaching and research-related employees.

In cases where researchers under this program intend to concurrently hold other positions (e.g., part-time lecturer at another university), they must file an application with Hiroshima University in advance pursuant to the Hiroshima University Regulations on Side Businesses of Employees.

8. Allowances Other Than Salary

(1) Relocation allowance: to be provided pursuant to Hiroshima University's relevant regulations.

(2) Research allowance: JPY 1,000,000 per year.

For mid-fiscal year hires, the research allowance will be adjusted based on the hire date.

9. Limit on Applications per Prospective Host Researcher

Each prospective host researcher may be listed on no more than two applications.

10. Application Procedure and Required Documents

Candidates must register and submit their applications through the online application system below. After logging in, please select "Call for Application: Phoenix Postdoctoral Researcher at Hiroshima University NEXT (Advanced Program)" and complete the web form and uploads.

Call for Applications Information Website: <https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/research/news/95141>

Web Application Website: <https://global-recruitment.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/user/register>

Application documents should be prepared in English in principle.

Items to be entered in the web form:

(1) Personal information (Name, Nationality, etc.)

(2) Languages

(3) Academic history

(4) Employment history

(5) Questions: including the names of other fellowship(s) that you are applying for, ORCID iD, and your academic goals etc.

(6) References/Referees (Note1)

(Note 1) Please list two referees who are not prospective host researchers.

After completing the web form, candidates must upload the following documents in PDF format:

- (1) Form 1: Application Form for Host Researchers (completed by the host researcher).
- (2) Form 2: Collaborative Research Plan (prepared jointly by the host researcher and the candidate).
- (3) Form 3: Letter of Consent (completed by the Dean of the host Graduate School or another appropriate responsible person).
- (4) Form 4: Selected Key Publications (up to five) — For each publication, provide a brief summary and explain its academic significance (up to 1,000 characters in English). If the publication has multiple authors, also describe your contribution. Reprints are not required at the time of application; however, they may be requested during the selection process. If the original publication is written in a language other than Japanese or English, please attach an abstract in English.
- (5) Form 5: List of Publications and Presentations.
- (6) Doctoral certificate/diploma or certificate of prospective completion of the doctoral program (if possible). If the original document is not in Japanese or English, English translation must be appended.

11. Deadline

Candidates must submit applications online no later than 12:00 noon (JST) on Friday, February 27, 2026.

12. Screening

- (1) First round of screening: selection based on application documents. (Note 1)
- (2) Second round of screening: selection based on interviews via an online conference system. Candidates will make oral presentations regarding (i) their research to date, (ii) their research plan if selected under this program, and (iii) career plans, followed by a Q&A session in Japanese or English. (Note 2)

(Note 1) Notification of the first screening results will be sent to all applicants.

(Note 2) The date/time of the second screening and the URL will be advised separately. The screening schedule will not be changed due to candidates' personal reasons.

13. Notification of Selection Results

The successful candidates will be notified by email as early as possible on or after April 2026.

14. Offer Acceptance/Declining the Offer

If you wish to decline the offer under this program, please notify the contact person listed in this Call for Applications within 14 days of receiving the offer notice. If you fail to respond within this period, the offer may be withdrawn.

15. Annual Reports and Final Reports

Researchers employed through this call for applications must submit reports at the end of the relevant fiscal year and immediately after the completion of their employment period, mainly regarding achievements made and research conducted during the applicable period. Details (forms, submission method, etc.) will be communicated as things progress.

16. Contact for Inquiries

Center for Collaborative Sciences, Headquarters for Co-creative Future Sciences, Hiroshima University

(Division in charge of Call for Applications for the Phoenix Postdoctoral Researcher at Hiroshima University NEXT, Advanced Program)

1-3-2 Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima City, Hiroshima 739-8511, Japan

Email Inquiry: ura@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp

We respectfully inform you that we are not in a position to respond to any inquiries concerning the results of the screening process, nor can we offer introductions or referrals to prospective host researchers.

17. Other Matters to Note

(1) This program does not promote any research with military purposes.

(2) Hiroshima University has established the Hiroshima University Rules on Security Export Control in accordance with the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act and conducts strict examinations for acceptance of international students and researchers. Accordingly, international applicants may be unable to receive their desired education or conduct their desired research due to restrictions under these rules.

[Security Export Control page on Iroha, a campus-wide information infrastructure system \(accessible only to those affiliated with Hiroshima University\)](#)

In the case of international candidates, host researchers must perform required checks on the Confirmation Sheet for Concerns of Applicants and go through required procedures prior to filing applications. For details, refer to the Security Export Control page on Iroha (accessible only to those affiliated with Hiroshima University).

(3) If the foregoing examinations under the Hiroshima University Rules on Security Export Control are prolonged, or other unforeseen events occur, appointments may not proceed precisely as outlined in the application.

(4) The University will properly control personal information contained in the application documents in accordance with the Hiroshima University Regulations on the Handling of Personal Information, strive to prevent leakage thereof, and use such information solely for the purpose of conducting selection and related procedures. The submitted application documents will not be returned.

(5) Hiroshima University is a smoke-free campus.

(6) For information regarding our faculty members, please refer to the URL below:

<https://www.guidebook.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en>